

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

***United States Attorney
Carol C. Lam***

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For Immediate Release

**FORMER SAN DIEGO INS ASSISTANT AREA PORT DIRECTOR
PLEADS GUILTY AND WILL RESIGN FROM HER POSITION
AS PORT DIRECTOR IN DETROIT**

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - October 19, 2005

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that Daphiney Kimberly Caganap, a former Assistant Area Port Director in the San Diego District of the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), pled guilty today in federal district court in San Diego before United States District Court Judge Napoleon A. Jones, Jr. to a felony charge of making a false statement. As part of the plea agreement, Caganap has agreed to resign from her present position as Port Director at the Detroit, Michigan Airport, Bureau of Customs and Border Protection, U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

An indictment handed up on June 7, 2005, charged Caganap with conspiracy to defraud the United States of honest services (one count), acceptance of illegal gratuities (three counts), as well as five false statement counts. The indictment described Caganap's relationship with a corrupt INS Inspector at the

San Ysidro Port of Entry who was being paid by a criminal organization for allowing marijuana and illegal aliens to be smuggled into the United States from the Republic of Mexico. In connection with her guilty plea, Caganap admitted that she lied to a Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Special Agent when she stated that she never went to dinner with the INS Inspector. The plea agreement noted that Caganap's false statement to the FBI was material to the FBI's investigation of the corrupt INS inspector's relationship with Caganap and the smuggling scheme.

United States Attorney Lam stated, "This guilty plea is an appropriate conclusion to a case that involved corruption, lies, and a breach of public trust." United States Attorney Lam praised the efforts of the Border Corruption Task Force, including the FBI, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security (OIG), and the Immigration and Customs and Enforcement Bureau (ICE) in San Diego, California, which spearheaded the investigation.

FBI Special Agent in Charge Daniel R. Dzwilewski commented, "Caganap was entrusted with keeping the United States borders safe and she violated this trust with deceit. This closes the chapter on a corrupt book."

According to OIG Special Agent in Charge Joseph Artes, "The guilty plea to the felony charge of making false statements to law enforcement agents arising out of the corruption investigation and Caganap's resignation from a high position in the federal Government confirm that dishonesty in high places will be exposed and prosecuted."

Caganap is scheduled to appear before Judge Jones for sentencing on January 13, 2006 at 8:00 a.m.

DEFENDANT

Daphiney Kimberly Caganap

SUMMARY OF CHARGE

Title 18 U.S.C. § 1001(a)(2) - False Statement (Count 6)

Maximum Penalty: 5 years in custody, \$250,000 fine, termination from Government office

INVESTIGATING AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation

Office of Inspector General, Department of Homeland Security

Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security